

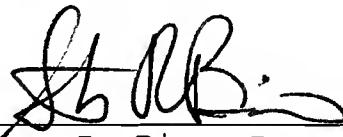
REMARKS

In the outstanding official action, claims 1, 3-8 and 12 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Feenstra et al, with claims 9-11 being rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Feenstra and further in view of Atarashi et al, all for the reasons of record. Claim 2 was deemed to be allowable if placed in independent form.

In response, and in order to place the instant application in condition for allowance, claim 2 is herewith cancelled, without prejudice, and the allowable subject matter of claim 2 has been added to claim 1, thus placing this allowable subject matter in independent form. Furthermore, since all of the remaining claims depend from claim 1, which now incorporates the allowable subject matter of claim 2, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are likewise allowable as further limiting allowable subject matter.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is now in condition for allowance, and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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